in a state machine capable of implementing the H.323 protocol. The H.323 interface includes a network terminal/device 102 including a communication domain control layer 110 according to the present invention and a packet network interface 13 that is coupled to the network terminal 102. As will be discussed in greater detail below, the network terminal 102 utilizes the ITU-T H.323 Recommendation protocol. The network interface 13 couples the network terminal 102 to the LAN 101. The network can include packet-switched Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) and Internet Packet Exchange (IPX) over Ethernet, Fast Ethernet and Token Ring networks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 6 and 17, as set forth below:

6.   (Amended) A communication endpoint for use in a network comprising:

a controller configured to handle call signaling during a media communication with another endpoint via a gatekeeper or directly with another endpoint;

wherein said controller is configured to maintain a database for identifying virtual domains associated with a single gatekeeper or a virtual domain associated with multiple gatekeepers.

17.   (Amended) A method for operating a telecommunication system having at least one gatekeeper and a plurality of endpoints, comprising:

storing a database of communication domain identifiers (CDI) in said plurality of endpoints, said CDI identifying an association of said endpoints with virtual domains associated with one of said at least one gatekeeper; and

accessing said database to determine a CDI of a called party when a call is made.